

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Serial No. 10/017,039

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REMARKSCLAIM 17

The Applicants have amended claim 17 to correct a minor error. As such, the Applicants submit that the amendment is made for reasons unrelated to patentability and that no new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicants request that Examiner enters this amendment prior to issuance of the allowed patent. If, however, the Examiner believes that any unresolved issues still exist, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Keith Taboada at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan 6, 2004

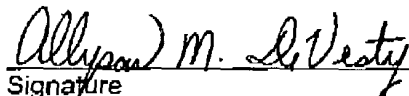


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile under 37 C.F.R. §1.8 on January 6, 2004 and is addressed to the Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.

  
Signature

Allyson M. DeVesty  
Printed Name of Person Signing

1-6-04  
Date of signature